

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 00609 161806Z

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /135 W
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O R 161631ZIJAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6054

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NY

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GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

TEL AVIV AND AMMAN FOR SECRETARY

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR SY XK

SUBJ: SYRIAN POSITION ON DISENGAGEMENT

1. AMID REPORTS OF IMMINENT VISIT BY SECRETARY KISSINGER TO
DAMASCUS, SYRIAN FONMIN KHADDAM, IN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED
HERE JAN 16 BY INDEPENDENT WEEKLY AS SAYYAD, MADE FOLLOWING
REMARKS RE SARG POSITION ON DISENGAGEMENT AND ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL:

(A) EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN FRONTS FORM SINGLE FRONT UNDER SINGLE
MILITARY COMMAND.

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(B) SEPARATION OF FORCES MEANS FIRST STAGE IN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. IN THIS CONTEXT, SYRIA WILL
AGREE TO DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES. IF THERE NO LINK BETWEEN
DISENGAGEMENT AND TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, THIS WOULD MEAN ENTIRE
ME PROBLEM IS BEING PUT ON ICE PENDING INDEFINITE OUTCOME OF
GENEVA CONF.

(C) DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES MUST TAKE PLACE SIMULTANEOUSLY
ON BOTH SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN FRONTS. DISENGAGEMENT ON ONLY ONE
FRONT WOULD ALLOW ENEMY TO CONCENTRATE HIS FORCES ON THE OTHER.

(D) SARG ATTACHES GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO MAINTAINING UNITY
OF ACTION BETWEEN SYRIA AND EGYPT WITHIN GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF
ARAB STRATEGY WHICH SEEKS LIBERATION OF ALL TERRITORIES OCCUPIED
IN 1967, INCLUDING JERUSALEM, AND RESTORATION OF RIGHTS OF
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. "EGYPT AND SYRIA HAVE CONFIRMED THEIR
COMMITMENT TO THIS POLICY...(AND) WE CANNOT IMAGINE THAT ANY
OF US WOULD DO ANYTHING TO VIOLATE IT".

2. COMMENT: KHADDAM'S REMARKS ARE CLEARER PUBLIC
EXPRESSION WE HAVE SEEN TO DATE OF SARG CONCERN THAT EGYPT MAY
AGREE TO UNILATERAL ARRANGEMENT ON DISENGAGEMENT WITH ISRAEL.
DECON 1/16/75.
BUFFUM

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CAIRO
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